An Historical

NARRATIVE

OF THE

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German Princess,

CONTAINING

All material PASSAGES, from her first Arrivall at *Graves-end*, the 30th of *March* last past, untill she was discharged from her Imprisonment, *June* the Sixth instant.

Wherein also is mentioned,

Sundry private Matters, between Mr. *John Carlton*, and others, and the said PRINCESS;

Not yet Published.

Together with a brief and notable *SHORT*, of *Billing* the *Brick-Layer*, one of her pretended Husbands, coming to *New-Gate*, and demanding of the Keeper her Deliverance, on *Monday* the Eighth instant.

Written by her Self, for the Satisfaction of the World, at the Request of Severall Persons of Honour.

London, Printed for *Charles Marlton*, 1663.

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BRITISH MUSEUM
SALE DUPLICATE
1787

Most Noble, Generous, and Vertuous LADIES *and* GENTLEWOMEN,

I Am not ignorant what great advantage the frequent false Reports of my Actions and Demeanours hath given to the dishonour of our Sex: Let me tell you, I had rather chuse to be dissolved into Attoms, then justly to deserve to be the occasion of any such thing. I therefore Adventured upon this Collection, to evince to the World, the Falshood and Insufficiency of the Designs against me. There is no Person of Understanding, but may easily discern and conclude as much as I desire for Vindication of my self from those Things my Enemies aspersed me with, or that have lately been upon the Stage.

He who was first the Contriver and Promoter of the False Suggestions against Me, coming to Visit me within one hour after the Just Sentence of *NOT GUILTY*, I told him, If the Modesty of my Sex would permit me, I would Require the Combat of him to appear in the Field, I look'd upon him but as a base Detractor: I required his Retiring from my Presence: He obeyed. His looks represented his Guilt. I could mention him, but it's below me to take notice of him, further then to know him for a Villain. But it being the Opinion of all Philosophers and Divines, as well Ancient as Modern, That Detraction is the Chief Branch of Envy, which is nourished by Lying, by which People of Honest Conversation are grievously wounded.—— *Diogenes* the *Cinick* being ask'd, What Beast Bit most Deadly? Answered, *Amongst Furious and Wild Beasts, None like the Detractor.*—— *And amongst Tame and Gentle Beasts, None like the Slother and Flatterer.*—— *Themistocles* the *Thebane*, upon the same occasion, said, *There was no greater Pain nor Misery in the World, then to behold the Honour or Credit of an Honest or Good Man or Woman to be in the Mercy of a venomous Tongue, and to be tortured by Detracting Speeches.* A *Spanish* Author that I have seen, hath this saying, That all Nations do observe it as a Law, That a Dissolute Life in Men, is not held to be such a Vice as in Women: That let a Report passe of a Woman, True or

False, Irreparably she lyeth under Infamy. Therefore I do imagine, that our Ancestors were so prudent, that in the Instituting of several Orders of Knights, they had still in Charge, That they should defend Innocent Ladies. And I never read of any Knight that undertook a Distressed Ladies Quarrell, but he Vanquished and Overcame. That Example of *Valentinus Baruthius*, a Native of *Toledo* in *Spain*, in his History, wherein he mentioneth a Daughter of one of the Kings of *England*, that was Married to the Duke of *Saxony* and Prince of *Piedmont*, She not yielding to the Immodest Solliciation and Request of *Pancalier*, whom the Duke her Husband had left as his Lieutenant in his Absence, whilest he was busied in the Warrs of *France*; The Count Imposed on her, the Crime of Adultery: For Confirmation (wanting other proof) he Required the Combat of any that should gainsay his Assertion. The which was Accepted by a Knight of the Noble House of *Mendoza*; Who slew him, notwithstanding many Disadvantages of a late Sickness, or his long Travel, and Disproportion of his Strength and Stature, &c.

Francis the First of that Name, King of *France*, granted the Combat to *Castaigneray* and the Lord *Jarnac*; *Castaigneray* having by words dishonoured a Lady, that was by Blood Allied to *Jarnac*: In the Opinion of all Persons, *Castaigneray* by reason of his often Combats, Strength, Judgment in Arms, and the use of Weapons, would be too hard for the Lord *Jarnac*; yet the Lord *Jarnac* slew him: The which Convinced all the Spectators, That the Innocency of the Lady Influenced the Sword of *Jarnac*. Many other Stories of like nature I could Instance, but I shall conclude with this:

Sure where is none will a Woman deprave,
Unless he be a Coward or a Knave.

I do not mention these Stories, to reflect upon any of the English Gallants, for not Taking part in my Cause, I at first apprehended I needed it not; and now do much less need it: for that my Enemies by their Insufficient Prosecution, made way for the World to conclude my Innocency. But I may in some sort complain of my Husband, who wore a Sword by his side, and yet could suffer me to be stript of my necessary Raiment. But instead of that Civil Defence, the least of Kindnesses he might have afforded me, that had enjoyed all *Hymen's* Rites with me so lately

lately before that Tragick-Part, he encountreth me with a Volume of one Sheet in Quarto, wherein he hath these Passages, That I by my Parts deluded him. In answer to which, He deluded me by his Pretences.

Reader, Thou shalt receive them from his own Pen; In his Epistle to the said Work, he hath this Passage, *I shall not give my self the Trouble, to recollect and declare the severall Motives and Inducements that deceitful but wise enough Woman used to deceive me with, &c.* In Page the 4 h he saith, *Her Wit did more and more Ingage me and charm me: Her Qualities deprived me of my own: Her Courteous Behaviour, her Majestick Humility to all Persons, her Emphaticall Speeches, her Kind and Loving Expressions; and amongst other things her High Detestation of all manner of Vice, as Lying, &c. Her great Pretence to Zeal in her Religion; her Modest Confidence and Grace in all Companies, Fearing the knowledg of none; her Demeanour was such, that she left no room for Suspition, not only in my Opinion, but also in others both Grave and Wise.*

Some other things he Insists upon, as his undertaking to tell the Story of the Management of the Business betwixt us; In which he is so far from doing Me Justice therein, that he wrongeth Me and his own Soul by lying.

For Confutation of which, I refer the Reader to the ensuing Discourse; Only there is one Passage that I am unwilling to let slip, that is in page the 6th, he saith, That my Father was in Town upon my Commitment, and did acknowledg me to be his Daughter, and that I had playd many such Tricks. It's strange this Father of mine could not be produced at the Tryal, if that had been true; As strange it was, That the Jury-Man himself (that was one of the Jury upon the Tryal of *Mary Mauders*) that they produced, who seemed to be a Man of Conscience and Judgment, could not swear nor say, That I was the *Mary Mauders* alias *Stedman*. But I wave all; and make it my Request to all *Ladies* and *Gentlewomen*, seriously to consider the whole ensuing Discourse: The which if done, I may rest Confident, that there is none but will set a Hand to the Erecting my Reputation to a higher Pitch, then from whence my Detracting Enemies endeavoured to depress it.

From my Lodging,
June 12, 1663.

Ladies and Gentlewomen,
Yours in all Submissive Observance,

Mary Carlton.

EPimenides the Philoſopher being asked by the *Rhodians*, What that Virtue called *Truth* was, anſwered, *Truth* is that thing, whereof (more then all others) the Gods do make profeſſion, and the Virtue that illuminateth the Heaven and the Earth, maintaineth Juſtice, governeth, preſerveth, and protecteth a State or Kingdom, and cannot indure any wicked thing near it; alſo it maketh all doubtful and ambiguous matters clear and apparent.

The *Corinthians* alſo demanded of *Chilo* the Philoſopher, what *Truth* was? ſaid, It was a ſure Gage and Standard, to meaſure all things by it who neither diminiſheth at one time, nor increaſeth at another: its a Buckler, a Shield that can never be pierced: its an Army never danted, a Flower that never faileth, a Haven that none ſhall periſh in, or ſuffer peril.

The *Lacedemonians* inquiſitive after this rare Virtue, importuned *Anaxachus* to delineate *Truth* to them; he drew its Portraicture in theſe fair Lines, *viz.* *Truth* is a perpetual *Health* and *Welfare*, a Life without ending, an Unguent that healeth all misfortunes, a Sun always ſhining, that never ſuffereth by Eclipſe, a Gate never ſhut, a Journey in which none can wax weary: Its a Virtue, without which all Strength is feebleneſs, and infirmneſs it ſelf; Wiſdom, Folly, and Madneſs: Without it, Patience is but a Counterfeit, and Liberty but a Priſon.

Auguſtus Cæſar, in the Triumphs that he made for *Mark Anthony*, and *Cleopatra*, brought with him to *Rome* a Prieſt of *Egypt*, aged 60 years, that was famous for not telling a Lye in his whole Life; the Senate ordered his Statue to be erected, and himſelf to be High-Prieſt.

In the time of the Emperour *Claudius*, there dyed at *Rome* one *Pamphilus*, that was upon good ground ſuſpected never to have told Truth all the days of his life; He, by the Emperour's Order, was denyed Buriall, his Houſe to be razed, his Goods confiſcate, in deteſtation of ſo venomous a Beaſt, who was ſo ſuſpected, that when by accident he did ſpeak Truth, the Hearers ſuſpected their own Knowledge.

I am not to inſiſt upon this Theam; but Truth is an amiable and delightful thing; it hath been no leſs my Deliverer, then it was my Sanctu-

ary;

ary; its Precepts will I observe in this ensuing Discourse, that as to matter of Fact I will have due regard, that Time nor Envy shall have no Advantage against me, to detect me in any particular or material Circumstance: my Ambition never tempted me to write a History of my Life, but my Necessity hath constrained me to give you a History of part of my Life; that is to say, from the first time of my first coming into *England*: for that the World yet never had an exact Account of what passed between Me, and Mr. *John Carleton*, now my Husband by the Law of *England*, unto which we are both Subjects.

I having been at *Colen*, the place of my Nativity, from thence for dispatch of some Affairs of mine, I went to *Utrick*, from thence to the *Brill*, where I took shipping in a small Vessel bound for *England*, and landed at *Graves-end* the 30th of *March* last past, in the Evening, and came in the Tide-Boat from thence to *London*, betimes the next morning: In the Company that were Passengers, there was one a Parson, for so his habit did bespeak him, who offered me the Civility of a Glass of Wine; but it being so early, we passed several Taverns, and could not procure admittance, from *Billings-gate*, until we came to the *Exchange-Tavern* against the Stocks, kept by one Mr. *King*; the Door being open, and Mr. *King* in the Bar counting of Brass Farthings, the Parson askt him, if we might have a pint of Wine; Mr. *King* replyed, That we might: A pint of Rhenish Wine, and a pint of Sack was called for; and during the drinking of it, the Parson offering to kiss me, I refused: Mr. *King* perceiving that I did not much like the Parsons company, came in, and entertained me in Discourse; askt me, if I was a Stranger; I told him, *Yes, I came from* Colen *in* Germany; and Mr. *King* said, Since it was so early, that I could not go with conveniency to seek a Lodging, if I pleased to repose my self for a time, his house was free; that although it was a publike house, yet he had not overmuch to do in it, I might be assured, it was a civil house, and that he had a kindness and a pity for Strangers; and moreover added, to his courteous Discourse, his care of me, saying, *That if I had a Charge, I should have a care, for the Town was full of wickedness, and that I might have some trick put upon me.* I thankt him, and told him, that I had a charge; that I was so much a Stranger, that I had no where to go unto that I knew of at present; but where e're I went, I had wherewith to defray my charges. Mr. *King* said, *His house should be at my service.* I answered him, *That I looke upon him as a civill person.* I took my leave of the Parson, and upon Mr. *Kings* Invitation, went to my Chamber,

Chamber, parcel of his house that he had alotted me for my appartment: Returning Mr. *King* many thanks for his civility, I took my leave of him also: He told me, that his Wife should wait upon me when I rose.

Let the World judge, if it be probable that I could design any thing to insnare Mr. *Carleton*, when at my accidental coming into that house, nothing could be more remote from my Thoughts or Apprehension, then he was; or then that which hapned afterwards. By what I shall further say, I doubt not but to undeceive the World, and demonstrate, that they designed against me: And whether I have that Estate they dreamt of, it is not material; I am not much to be blamed, if I have it, and conceal it since they have pursued me in that envious sort, of which the World is Witness.

Well, when I rose about 11 of the Clock, Mistris *King*, the Mistriss of the house, attended me; I was furnished with all respect with what I askt for, or what was necessary: After which, I applyed my self to writing of my Letters, sent them away by the Post beyond the Seas, wherein I give Instructions, for the managing of those Affairs that concerned me.

Wednesday the first of *April*, Mrs. *King* made a great Feast, where were divers persons of quality, as she said, amongst the rest, her Brother Mr. *John Carleton*. At this Entertainment, Mrs. *King* did advise me to call her Cozen, the which I did. *Thursday* the 2d of *April*, Mr. *John Carlton* came in his Coach, with two Foot-men attending of him, calling him my *Lord*, and Mistriss *King* did also call him my *Lord*. With that I askt Mrs. *King*, if it was not the same person that din'd with us yesterday; she said, True, it was so, but he was in a Disguize then, and withall, that in a humour he would often do so: *But*, saith she, *I do assure you he is a Lord*. Upon that I replyed, *Then his Father must be an Earl, if living*. She affirmed, that he was a person of great Honour. The same time my Lord presented me with a rich Box of Sweet-meats: I could do no less then thankfully accept thereof.

My Lord came every day afterwards to Mr. *Kings*, and by his importunity would carry me abroad in a Coach to *Holyway* and *Islington*. Mrs. *King* would often ask me, what my Lord did say to me; I told her, *Nothing that I observed, but his Lordship abounded in civility, mixt with Compliments*. *How*, said she, *Madam, He loves you*. *Loves me, for what Mistriss* King, I replyed. She said, *For your great Parts and Endowments*.

I asked

I asked her, *How my Lord could tell that I had either.* She said, *My Lord could see within me.* I answered, *That my Lord must have very good eyes, if he could see within me, or else I must be very transparant.*

After which, I did order the matter so, that his Access to me was not so easie: Mistris *King* importuneth me to admit my Lord to visit me; I told her plainly, *That I did not understand his Lordships meaning.* He provided me a great Banquet, at which his Lordships Mother was very fine dresst, who questioned what I was. I told my Lord, *That I had received Civilities from him, and he had the like from me, and that I had no necessity to give any account to any person what I was, for any thing that I intended; and that if any Design or Affair of his required any such thing out of convenience or otherwise, he might forbear it.* His Lordship excused his Mothers Inquisitions, by saying, *She was his Mother, and that Parents did think themselves concerned, in looking after the good of their Children. But* (said he) *Madam, Waive all this, however I will marry you to morrow. What* (said I) *my Lord, without my consent?* My Lord, *I desire your Lordship not to come near me any more, I will not lye under such questioning and scrutinie: Your Lordship will be safe in following my advice, in not coming at me at any more.* Upon this his Lordship wept bitterly; I with-drew my self from his presence: He writ a Letter of high Complements to me (the which Letter perished in the storming and taking of my Out-works, by the Forces of Mr. *George Carleton*, my Husbands Father); at the same time I had a Gown making upon my own account by Mistris *Kings* Taylor in the *Strand*, I took a Coach and went thither; all this while the young Lord, not knowing where I was, remained impatient until my return, where I found him standing at the Bar (not the Bar his Lordship was afterwards pleased to be one of the Instruments to make me stand at) at the *Exchange-Tavern*, and suddainly clasp't about my middle, and violently carryed me to my Chamber. I asked his meaning: He answered, *That I had forbid him my presence; that it had almost made him mad; that he desired nothing more of me, then but to let him look upon me.* Upon that he did, with a very strange Jesture, fix his eyes upon me: In compassion to him, I aske him what his Lordship meant, and intended? he telled in a kind of discomposed manner, *I would have you to be my Wife.* I answered him, *My Lord, I rather think you have Courted me for a Mistris then for a Wife: I assure you, that I will rather be a Mistris to the greatest of Princes, I will rather chuse to be a Wife to the meanest of men.*

Upon which, he uttered divers asseverations in confirmation of the reality of his intentions, and earnest desire of the Honour in making me his Wife, without any respect to what I had.

The next day being Saturday Easter-Eve, the Taylor brought me my Gown to my Lodging, I being dresst and adorned with my Jewels, he again renewed his Sute to me, with all importunity imaginable; and a little before that time, having intercepted my Letters, and understanding how my Estate did lie, he and all his friends renewed their Sute to me, to give my consent to marry the young Lord: His courteous Mother is now most forward, pressing me to consent, by telling me, that *she should lose her Son, and he his wits*, he being already impatient with denyals and delayes, adding withall, that he was a person hopeful, and might deserve my condiscention: I withstood all their sollicitation, although they continued it untill 12. of the Clock that night: The young Lord at his taking his leave of me, told me he would attend me betimes the next morning, and carry me to St. *Pauls* Church, to hear the Organs, saying, that there would be very excellent Anthemes performed by rare voyces, during which time, young Captain *Sakvill* who they had made privy to their undertaking, out of some discontent, threatned to discover the whole business, but he was promised 100l. to be silent, and plied closely with Sack, that he was dead drunk that night: the morrow being Saturday, the 19th of *April* last, in the morning betimes, the young Lord cometh to my Chamber-door, desiring admittance, which I refused, in regard I was not ready: yet so soon as my head was dressed, I let him have Access: he hastned me, and told me his Coach was at the door, he carrieth me to his Mothers in the *Gray-friers London*, where I was assaulted by the young Lords teares, and others, to give my consent to marry him, telling me that they had a Parson and a License ready: So I being amazedly importuned thereunto, did then and not before, give an amazed Consent: to the Church of Great St. *Bartholomews* we are carried, married by one Mr. *Smith*, from thence we travelled to *Barnet*, that it might not be known at Court, that he had married a forraign Princess: He lyeth with me Sunday and Monday night; we return to St. *Bartholomews* again, and were there married again the second time with a License, (they having before falsly pretended a License) that there might be no defect or flaw in the Marriage.

On *Friday* following, being the 24. of *April*, Lodgings are taken for my Lord and my Self in *Durham* Yard, and much State and Grandeur is used for the Credit of his Lordship. The next *Friday* following, being

May-

May-Day, his Lordship with great State carrieth Me into *Hide-Park*, where I was accommodated by the Courteous Respect of divers Persons of Quality, with great Rarities.

My Husband by this time, publickly owned the Title of Lord, by the which Title privately, he carried on his design upon me, he being one day in company with some of his old Acquaintance, hearing him boast of the fortune he had matched, they told him, that they might possibly commit an errour, in calling him Mr. *Carlton*, and that they should readily give him his due, by what Title soever was proper to him, and that they knew not better how to be instructed then from himself, who they thought would be least guilty of flattery in that case. Why truly, said he, my Princess calleth me Lord: upon that, he took upon him the acceptation of the Title, publickly as well as privately.

The first time he came to me, he pretended to be a Lord, the which Title he could not well maintain, as the case stood, unless he made me a Princess: Now let but the World judge how divilishly I had been cheated, if I had been a Princess, I had no reason to undeceive them in their wilful mistakes, when I saw by their practises, how much I was deceived, and disappointed; for now by this time, Mrs. *King* calleth me Sister, and I come to understand that his Lordship was a young Clark, his Father finding that his Lordships concealed Honour had taken Aire, addresseth himself to me, least I might take dislike thereat, in finding my self so palpably deceived; and by all meanes I must make over my Estate unto my Husband, saying unto me, *Daughter, you will do well to settle your Estate upon my Son, it will satisfie the World, and redound to your Honour.* I told him I saw my self deceived, and that although I could not keep my affections from him, I would keep my Estate untill that I did die: I cannot but make a stop here, when I remember how violently they lately did prosecute me, without all peradventure this saying of mine animated them to seek my life so vigorously. This was the cause of my first breach with them, and the cause of my troubles that did immediately insue.

In one or two dayes, the Scene alters, and a Letter from *Dover* is contrived, to be a discovery of me; For an account of which, I refer you to my Speech in my Tryall, for Vindication of my Self in that Particular.

My Husband's Father cometh to my Lodging in *Durham* Yard, with Mris. *Clark*, and my Husband and others, called me Cheat and Harlot, violently ſtript me of all my Apparell and Jewells, pulled off my Silk Stockings from my Leggs, cut the Lace of my Bodies, and ſcarce left me any thing to cover my Nakedneſs with; hurried me before a Juſtice, where the Father and the Son are bound to Proſecute me for having of two husbands; they preſs me to confeſs the Truth; I did inſiſt upon no other Juſtification then my Innocency: The which at laſt was my Security and Refuge, againſt their Malitious and unnatural Dealing with me. But I can do no leſs then ſay, That my Husband did nothing but with Reluctancy, and was preſt thereunto by his Friends.

Notwithſtanding all which, I was committed Priſoner to the *Gate-Houſe, Weſtminſter*, without one penny of Money, or any manner of Relief; But my Husband came thither to Viſit me, and Charged the Keeper I ſhould want nothing, ſo far as 40 l. went, he would ſee paid; and afterward on the 11th of *May*, ſent me this Letter, the Copy of which I here inſert *Verbatim*; the which I have now by me, and ſhall keep it as a Relict.

My Deareſt Heart,

ALthough the manner of your Uſage may very well call the ſincerity of my Affection and Expreſſions to you in Queſtion; Yet when I conſider, That you are not ignorant of the Compulſion of my Father, and the Animoſity *of my whole Relations both againſt You and my Self for your ſake, I am very Confident your Goodneſs will pardon and paſſe by thoſe things which at preſent I am no way able to help: And be you Confident, That notwithſtanding my Friends averſion, there ſhall be nothing within the Reach of my Power ſhall be wanting, that may Conduce both to Your Liberty, Maintenance, and Vindication. I ſhall very ſpeedily be in a Condition to furniſh You with Money, to ſupply You according to your deſire. I hope Mr.* Bayly *will be very Civill to you; and let him be aſſured, he ſhall in a moſt exact meaſure be ſatisfied, and have*

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a Requital for his Obligation. My dearest, always praying for our happy meeting,

I rest, Your most affectionate Husband,

May the 11th. 1663.

John Carlton.

At the same time, his Brother *George* came and Drank a health to my Confusion, fell down dead Drunk, and afterwards said, That I had poysoned him.

Other of my Husband's Friends came to Visit me in the *Gate-House*, (of the many hundreds of others, I shall say nothing) one of them said, Madam, I am one of your Husbands Friends and Acquaintance, I had a desire to see you, because I have heard of your breeding. Alas, said I, I have left that in the City amongst my Kindred, because they were it.

Another in his discourse delivered as an Aphorism, *That Marriage and Hanging went by Destiny.* I told him, *I had received from the Destines Marriage; and he in probability might Hanging.* To wave many others of the like nature.

On the 3d of *June*, 1663. I am by Order brought to the Sessions in the *Old Bayly.* The Court being sate, a Bill of Indictment was drawn up against Me by the Name of *Mary Moders*, alias *Stedman*, for having two Husbands now alive, *viz. Thomas Stedman* and *John Carlton*. The Grand Jury found the Bill, and was to the effect following: *viz.*

That she the said Mary Moders *late of* London, *Spinster, otherwise* Mary Stedman, *the Wife of* Tho. Stedman *late of the City of* Canterbury *in the County of* Kent *Shoomaker*, 12 May, *in the sixth Reign of his now Majesty, at the Parish of St.* Mildreds *in the City of* Canterbury, *in the County aforesaid, did take to Husband the aforesaid* Thomas Stedman, *and him the said* Thomas Stedman *then and there had to husband. And that she the said* Mary Moders, *alias* Stedman, 21 April, *in the 15th year of his said Majesties Reign, at* London, *in the Parish of* Great *St.* Bartholomews, *in the Ward of* Farringdon *without, Feloniously did take to Husband one* John Carlton, *and to him was married, the said* Thomas Stedman *her former Husband*

then

then being alive, and in full life, against the form of the Statute in that case provided, and against the Peace of our said Sovereign Lord the King, his Crown and Dignity, &c.

Afterwards I was called to the Barr; and appearing, was commanded to hold up my hand: Which accordingly I did; and my Indictment was read to me as followeth:

Clerk of the Peace. Mary Moders, *alias* Stedman, *Thou standest Indicted in* London *by the Name of* Mary Moders *late of* London *Spinster, otherwise* Mary Stedman, *the Wife of,* &c. And here the Indictment was read as above: *How sayst thou, Art thou guilty of the Felony whereof thou standest Indicted, or Not guilty?*

Not guilty, my Lord.

Clerk of the Peace. How wilt thou be tryed?

I said, *By God and the Country.*

Clerk of the Peace. God send thee a good deliverance.

And afterwards I being set to the Barr in order to my Tryal, I prayed time till the morrow for my Tryal: Which was granted, and all persons concerned were ordered to attend at Nine of the Clock in the Forenoon.

I was sent to *New-Gate*, and in the Evening my Husband came to the Place I was lodged at, and desired admittance. After I was acquainted with it, I desired he should be admitted to my Presence. Upon his entring the Room he said, *How do you do, Madam?* I thank you, my Lord, as well as ever I was in my life, never better. *I pity you, Madam.* I scorn your Pity, my Lord, I have too large a Soul. *But* (said he) *I come to take my leave of you for ever; You have not long to stay here, I am sorry for you.* Why, (said I) my Lord, have you numbred my dayes? My propitious Stars a better sort of Influence then you imagine them to have. *Well* (said he) *I shall pray for you, Madam.* I said, My Lord, why, are you Righteous? The Prayers of the Wicked are not effectuall. Upon that, he stept backward to be gone. I stept forwards to him, and said,

Nay, (my Lord) 'tis not amiss,
Before we part, to take a kiss.

Why, said he, *will you kiss me?* I told him, *Yes*: and did so. A Person of Honour desired him to stay and take a Glass of Sack; He said

said, *No.* I Replyed, *I am sorry your Lordships Breeding is so poor, it will not give you leave to be Civill.*

On *Thursday* the 4th of *June*, at 9. of the Clock in the Morning, I was brought by my Keeper to the Barr, and Silence being made, the Jury was Sworn, and the Witnesses were called, *viz. James Knott, Sarah Williams*, Mr. *George Carlton* the Elder. The Court with great Patience staid the prosecution above an hour and a half, in regard Mr. *George Carlton* alledged he was not ready with his Witnesses. After which, the Court proceeded, and acquainted Mr. *Carlton*, That they were not bound to stay so long as they had already; but he was bound to be provided to prosecute.

The Indictment was Read, which was to this Effect; That I had at several times married several persons that were now living; That I had married in St. *Meldreds* Parish in *Canterbury* some years last past, one *Thomas Stedman*, a Shoe-maker now living; And that in *April* last past I had Feloniously married one *John Carlton*, against the Statute in that Case made and provided.

James Knott was Sworn, and said, That I was married in the place aforesaid, unto one *Thomas Stedman*, who is now alive, and would have come up, if he had had Money to have born his Charges; and that he gave Me in Marriage: That I was born at *Canterbury*, and that my Father in Law his Name was *Richard Foord*.

He being asked, If he knew my own Father and Mother; He said, No. And further said, That it was about a Week or a Fortnight before the Act for Marriages by Justices of the Peace was put in Execution.

The Lord Chief Justice ask't *Knott*, What were the words used in the Marriage? He answered, *That he was so young, that he could not remember that.*

William Clark Sworn, said, That there was an Indictment against Me at *Dover*, for marrying of one *Day*, after *Stedman*, and that I was prosecuted by *Stedman*, of which I was cleared.

Mr. *George Carlton* the Elder being Sworn, gave in Evidence, That he saw my Husband at *Dover*. Being asked, *Whether he knew him to be her Husband?* He answered, That he could not swear it.

James Knott gave further Evidence, *That I had two Children by* Stedman.

Mr. *George Carlton* the Elder being askt, If he had any thing further to say, acquainted the Court, That he had search't the Register-Book of the

the Parish Church of St. *Meldreds*, *Canterbury*, but could not find any such Marriage Registred. And further said, *That the present Parson of the Parish did tell him, That the Clerk of the said Place was often guilty of neglect in that kind.*

Mr. *George Carlton* the younger being Sworn, said, That I was married unto his Brother, *John Carlton*, in *April* last, in Great St. *Bartholomews.*

Mr. *Smith*, the Parson that married me there, gave in Evidence, That he married Mr. *John Carlton* and my self, in *April* last, by the Book of *Common-Prayer*, and had a Licence produced to him for his Warrant; I craving leave to speak, said, I acknowledged that I was married to Mr. *Carlton*, at the time, and in the manner as is before expressed; therefore they might save themselves the Labour, and the Honourable Bench the trouble of further Proof in that Case.

Mr. *George Carlton* the elder being askt, If he had any other Evidence to offer, answered, *That he had more Witnesses to prove my being married to other persons.* The Bench Replyed, *That there could be nothing given in Evidence that was not contained in the Indictment.* The Court askt *Knot*, Who were with him besides at the Wedding he mentioned in his Evidence; he said, *That there was Mr.* Man, *the Parson that married us, the Sexton, my Sister, and himself that gave me.*

Some of the Jury desired the Court to ask *Knot*, How old he was now: he answered, *That he was one or two and thirty years of Age.* Mr. *Carlton* being askt, If he had any more Witnesses, answered, *No.*

I standing all this while at the Bar, not once interrupting or disturbing the Evidence of the other side, the Court calling upon me to make my defence, I without any disturbed thought, or unquiet mind, did in a deliberate composed manner, address my self to the Bench in this sort:

My Lord, *In the first place, I do with all due respect and submission, humbly beseech your Lordship, and this Honourable Bench, not to impute any thing that I shall say to confidence, but rather to the necessity that lyeth upon me, to make my Defence for my life. A thing that will sufficiently oblige any to make the best Defence they can: but that doth not weigh so much with me, as that which is every whit as dear to me as my life.*

My Lord, *It is my Reputation and my innocency, that incourageth me to speak before your Lordship at this time, and it is that which produceth confidence in me, that as I am innocent of the thing urged upon me by them, the Justice and Reason of you before whom I stand, by the which I hope to be acquitted and ren-*

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dead to the World what I am, not what my professions would have the World believe me to be.

My Lord, I shall not trouble you with any thing impertinent, nor with any thing that related to those affaires more then need drew it. When his Son, my Husband, came and addressed himself to me, pretending himself a person of Honour and upon first sight pressed me to Marriage: I told him, Sir, said I, I am a stranger, have no acquaintance here, and desire you to desist your Suit; I could not speak my mind, but he (having borrowed some threadbare Complements) replyed, Madam, Your seeming vertues, your amiable person, and noble deportment, renders you so excellent, That were I in the least interested in you, I cannot doubt of happiness; and so with many words to the like purpose, courted me. I told him, and indeed could not but much wonder, that at so small a glance he could be so presumptuous with a Stranger, to hint this to me; but all I could say, could not beat him off. Therefore, my Lord, I do humbly acquaint your Lordship, that old Mr. Carlton did raise a Design upon me, then upon him, of saying nothing of what passed before I was married to his Son, of which there was enough to demonstrate that evidently, so soon as I was married to his Son, he desired me to make over my Estate to his Son, to satisfie the World, that was somewhat amused, and in doubt of what it seems they had spread abroad for their own Reputation: I assured him, Sir, I shall not disinvest my self of my Estate, until I die.

Mr. Carlton intercepted my Letters, by that understood how my Estate did lie, that he had that expectation of what I had, is further evident; for his Son came to me, pretending to be a person of Honour and great quality, and the better to accomodate himself in his application to me, he borrowed his Brother George Cloak, it is the same he hath on his back in Court before your Lordship; and if any be deceived, I am.

My Lord, If that they could but have been insured that I had been the person as to Estate, that they imagined me to be, your Lordship should not have been troubled at this time, in these matters, if I understand them aright, they would have been contented to have practised concealment, in case I had had more then one Husband. Instead of this defamation that I am loaded with, my Lord, my crime is, that I have not an Estate, or at least such a one as they imagined it to be; therefore my Lord, I say, I am brought at this time to this place: And therefore, my Lord, were my Jewels seized to defray the Charges of their expensive courting of me. To colour what they have done, they fix the Offences of some Woman of *Canterbury*, a person that may be

dead, or gone out of the Land for ought I know, upon me the place I know not, a place that I am a stranger unto; if that had not bin so, they have had time enough since my first Commitment to have produced more Evidence then any that hath as yet been urged before Your Lordship: My Lord, They brand me for marrying of a Shoo-maker, and another sad piece of Mortality, a Brick-layer. My Lord, My Soul abhorreth such a thought, and never was accommodated with such Condiscention, to move in so low an Orb. My Lord, by all that I can observe of the Persons that appear against me, they may be divided into two sorts; the one of them come against me for want of Wit, the other for want of Mony.

That Mony hath been proffered to subborn some against me, I have Witness to prove.

My Lord, These People have been up and down the Country, and finding none there that could justifie any thing of this matter, they get here an unknown Fellow, unless in a Prison, and from thence borrowed, you cannot but all judg to swear against me. *My Lord*, were there any such Marriage as this fellow pretends, methinks there might be a Certificate from the Minister, or place: Certainly if married, it must be registred, but there is no Registry of it, and so can be no Certificate, no Minister nor Clerk to be found: And if I should own a Marriage, then you see that great Witness cannot tell you, whether I was lawfully married, or how? But it is enough for him (if such a paultry fellow may be believed) to say, I was married. I was never yet married to any but *John Carlton*, the late pretended Lord: But these persons have sought always to take away my life, bringing persons to swear against me.

My Lord, When old Mr. *Carlton* saw that he could not obtain his End of me, he threatned me with a Justice, and a Prison; and the Justice bound him over to prosecute me; he must make the best of it, and therefore it is no wonder that he rep ired to such Means and Instruments to effect my Ruine.

My Lord, I desire that my Witnesses may be called.

Elizabeth Collier said, That she coming to the *Gate-House* to see her husband, being a Prisoner there for Debt, one pretended that he came to see his Wife there, named *Mary Maudlen*. Upon that, she took upon her to personate the said Person he asked for: He said, *I, 'tis you then are that unhappy Woman that I married.* The which person she never saw before in her life.

Mr. *Ed. Bayly*, Deputy-Keeper of the *Gate-House*, ſaith, That he hath heard 40 People, at the leaſt, of *Canterbury*, ancient Livers and Inhabitants there, ſay, That they never knew, nor did ever ſee me, before they came to ſee Me in the *Gate-House*, upon the Fame that was ſpread abroad of my being born at *Canterbury*, and having acted ſuch a part at *Canterbury*.

The Lord Chief Juſtice was pleaſed to ask Me, *Where I was Born?* I anſwered, *In Germany*. He ask'd me, *Where?* I ſaid, *At Colen*.

Mr. *Clark* was askt by the Court, *Whether he could prove, or ſwear, That I was the* Mary Mauders *that was Tryed at* Dover? He anſwered, That he could not, neither prove it, nor ſwear it himſelf; for he was a ſtranger to the whole Buſineſs.

I perceiving the ſleight Evidence, and that I needed not either to ſay more, or offer more evidence in my behalf, ſubmitted my Cauſe to the Bench and Jury.

Upon my being askt by the Bench, *If I had more to ſay*; I Replyed, *No*.

The Court gave Inſtructions to the Jury as followeth:

Firſt, The Indictment was Briefly recited.

And as to the Evidence, the Court obſerved, That there was but one Witneſs to prove the Indictment, and that he could not remember the manner of Marriage, nor the words uſed there.

And if that I had been Married, and had two Children, and that the Jury ſhould believe that Single Evidence, and that he had ſworn aright, I was to dye.

The Judge told the Jury, *That they had heard of a Tryall againſt me, for having had Two Husbands before, one* Stedman, *and* Day, *at one time, and that from a Jury-Man that was upon the Jury at the ſame Tryall; yet he could not ſwear, That I was the Woman.*

The Jury went forth, and continued abſent a quarter of an hour: Upon their Return, and Silence being made, the Jury being called over, they were askt as the Cuſtom is, *Who ſhould ſay for them?* They anſwered, *The Fore-Man*.

The Court askt, *Whether they found the Priſoner Guilty, or not Guilty?*

The Fore-Man anſwered, *Not Guilty*. Upon which, there was a Great Shout of the People.

After Silence being made, I moved the Court, That they would Order the Reſtoration of my Jewels. They anſwered, *That I had*

but Oswald Mr. Carlton for her Husband, he must sue for them, if Old Mr. Carlton shall deny the delivery of them.

When the Jury was Returning with their Verdict, my Husband in the Garden, met them; he askt one of them, *If they had found me Guilty?* He in answer to his question, said, *No, my Lord, We shall leave you to make much of your Princess.* He Replyed, *By God, I am undone, I will never own her.*

Their Envy against me rested not here, they preferred several other Bills the same Afternoon; and endeavoured as much the next day: but the Grand Jury perceiving it to be rather upon Malice, then upon any just ground that they had so to do, flung them out.

During my stay at *New Gate* after the Tryal, a Kinsman of my Lords came to Visit me, said, *Madam, I think you are with Child.* I answered him, *That if I were, it would be a young Clerk, he would be born with a Pen and Ink in his hand and a Bond about his Neck.*

Saturday the 6th of *June*, I was discharged from my Restraint; since which, I shall acquaint the World with what hath happned to my Vindication: It was one of my pretended Husbands, by whom a Bill was preferred (but not found, as I said before) by *Billing* the Brick-layer. Upon *Whitsun-Monday*, the 8th of *June* instant, the said *Billing* came to *Newgate*, demanded of the Keepers to deliver his Wife to him: The Turn-Key, and other subordinate Officers of the Goal, told him, They had none of his Wife; he insisted upon it, and with-stood all denial, mentioned my name, and the particulars of my Tryal: The Keepers remembring there was a former mistake of the same person, given in Evidence on my behalf at the Tryal, called one *Grizel Hudson* a Convict, a pretty Woman, and in good habit; the Turn-key asked *Billing*, Whether this was his Wife? *Billing* replyed, *Yes*; and askt her, Why she did not come to him upon his first sending for her? She told him, That the Keepers would not permit her to stir out of the Prison, in regard her Fees were not paid. *Billing* said, He would pay the Fees; and whispered her in the Ear, saying, That they had a mind to hang her (meaning the *Carltons*) but he would not prosecute her: Time it was, he had put in an Indictment against her, but he could not help that. Well *Moll*, said he to her, *Have you all your things?* She said, *Yes.* But, said he, *Moll, why do you stay here amongst such wicked Company, Rogues and Whorts, I see their Irons about their Legs.* Why, said she, *I have left some*

some Liquor engaged in the Cellar. To the Cellar the Keeper carryed them both; and there *Billing* left a Note under his Hand, to pay five shillings to the Tapster: Which Note he hath to produce, to satisfie any that shall make further Enquiry in this particular.

He further said, That she had cheated him of fourty pounds, and that he would pawn the Lease of his House, rather then she should want Money, although she was a wicked Rogue, if she would but live with him: She promised she would. He told her he would give her a Sky-colour'd Silk Petticoat, and Wastcoat, and a Podesway Gown, new *Holland* for Smocks, and all other things necessary. *Billing* turning himself to the Company there present, said merrily, *That she had cost him much before when he marryed her, but he never lay with her, but he had kist her, and felt her a hundred times.* *Billing* askt her again, If she would leave these wicked Rogues, and go long with him. She said, she had another Debt to pay: He askt what it was; She said, Twenty pounds to such a one, a Stranger then present, unto which person he gave a Note to pay 20 *l.* in one moneth after the Date thereof: (it's more then probable he will be made so to do.)

He further said to her, *That now it will trouble me to pay all this Money, and then you to run away from me in a short time.* Withall, said he, *Moll, You need not, for I have a better Estate then the young man that tryed you for your Life.* So gave the particulars of his Estate, what in Money, Houses, Leases, and Land. He added moreover, that he did love her out of measure, notwithstanding she had done him other mischiefs, then what he had before-mentioned. She ask him, what they were? He said, She had stollen from his Daughter a Knife and a wrought Sheath, a Handkercher, and a Seal'd Ring. With that, the Standers by told him, that he was mistaken, that this *Grizell Hudson* was not the person: He swore it was, and that he knew her well enough; that he saw her in the *Gatehouse*, and that she knew what passed between us there: *But*, said he, *Moll, Thou art a cunning Rogue, I desire nothing of thee but to be honest, and live with me*; the which she promised, and he parted with great content thereupon.

Reader, Take the whole, and view it well; I leave it to thy Ingenuity, Whether from the Tryal it self, and other Circumstances, there be not enough to clear one, in thy Judgment. I have omitted cloathing of it in polite Language, in regard I was confined to render it in those proper

per Terms and Words, that every Accident carryed along with it self, without adding or diminishing.

FINIS.

AN

Encomiastick POEM

UPON

The German Princess.

FAmes Trump sounds forth the *Amazons* Renown,
Whose Worthy Feats have Kingdoms overthrown;
The Triumphs of their Sex may win the Bayes
From Masculine Fortunes more unworthy praise.
Some are for Valour, some for Learning prais'd,
Beauty and piercing Wit have others rais'd;
Man's highest Honours can't pretend to claim
What is not justly due to Womans Name.
And yet all Histories defective are,
And have not nam'd a Female half so rare,
As this our PRINCESS; whose WIT so refin'd,
Made frustrate what her En'mies had design'd;
Deceiving her deceivers, cast them all
Into the Pit they digged for her fall.
No more shall *Cleopatra* boast her Parts,
Which won great *Antony*'s and *Cesar*'s hearts;
Though with one Passion she did both enflame,
In all Estates her Self being still the same.

To

To vainer purpose did *Thalestris* come
From distant Regions to procure a Son
Of *Alexander*: 'Twas not (I greatly fear)
Courage or Wit's Effect, but hot Desire.
This Forreign *PRINCESS* such perfections brought
Into our *English* World, as Lessons taught
Most proper; for our Age declining still
From bad to worse, goes on to what's most ill:
Our Ancestors renowned Vertues priz'd,
But we all reall Honours have despis'd;
How well doth she our dulled Souls revive,
And good Examples to the Great Ones give,
To Brave and Noble Vertues to aspire,
And make the under-duller World admire.
Thus, though disguis'd, her most Illustrious Worth
Through all Impediments of *Hate* brake forth,
Which her Detractors sought within a Prison
T'Eclipse, whereby her Fame's the higher risen.
As Jems i'th' dark do cast a brighter Ray,
Then when obstructed by the Rival-day;
So did the Lustre of her Mind appear,
Through this obscure Condition, more clear.
And when they thought by bringing to the Barr
To gain her publicke Shame, they rais'd her far
More Noble Trophees, She being clearly Quit
Both by her *INNOCENCE* and Exc'lent WIT.

FINIS.